

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A method of constructing a hose assembly comprising the steps of:  
    applying a braided reinforcing material having gaps extending therethrough about an inner tubular layer;  
    opening gaps in the braided reinforcing material;  
    dispersing a polymeric material and a carrier fluid into the opened gaps of the braided reinforcing material; and  
    sintering the assembly.
2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said opening step further includes bending the tubular inner layer having the reinforcing material braided thereover.
3. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said bending step further includes entraining the tubular inner layer with the braided reinforcing material through a series of bends.
4. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said bending step includes drawing the emulsion into the gaps of the reinforcing material.
5. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said dispersing step further includes passing the tubular layer through a reservoir containing a dispersion of the polymeric material.

6. (withdrawn) A hose assembly dispersion reservoir comprising:

a reservoir tank for containing a polymeric material;

opening means for opening gaps in a braid disposed over the hose assembly while the hose assembly passes through said reservoir tank.

7. (withdrawn) The hose assembly dispersion reservoir according to claim 6, wherein said opening means includes at least one pulley having an outer surface for entraining the hose assembly thereover.

8. (withdrawn) The hose assembly dispersion reservoir according to claim 6, wherein said opening means are horizontally and vertically adjustable.

9. (withdrawn) A hose assembly made by the process of:

applying a braided reinforcing material about an inner tubular layer;

opening gaps in the braided reinforcing material;

dispersing a polymeric material and a carrier fluid into the gaps of the reinforcing material; and

sintering the assembly.

10. (withdrawn) The hose assembly according to claim 9, wherein said dispersing step further includes bending the tubular inner layer having the reinforcing material braided thereover.

11. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein said bending step further includes entraining the tubular inner layer with the braided reinforcing material through a series of bends.

12. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein said bending step includes drawing the emulsion into the gaps of the reinforcing material.

13. (new) A method of constructing a hose assembly comprising the steps of:

applying a braided reinforcing material having gaps extending therethrough about an inner tubular layer;

opening gaps in the braided reinforcing material by bending the tubular inner layer having the reinforcing material braided thereover, the bending further including entraining the tubular layer with the braided reinforcing material through a series of bends, the bending being performed by passing the tubular layer having the reinforcing material braided thereover around a plurality of bending devices;

at least simultaneously with the opening step, dispersing a polymeric material and a carrier fluid into the open gaps of the braided reinforcing material; and

sintering the assembly.

14. (new) The method according to claim 13, wherein the bending devices are each adjustable in at least one direction.

15. (new) The method according to claim 13, wherein the bending devices are each adjustable in at least two directions.

16. (new) The method according to claim 13, wherein the bending step further comprises releasing air bubbles from the braided reinforcing material, thereby causing a vacuum that draws the polymeric material into the braided reinforcing material.

17. (new) The method according to claim 13, wherein the dispersing step further includes passing the tubular layer through a reservoir containing a dispersion of the polymeric material.